

Remarks

Claims 1-10 are pending and are under consideration.

Claims 2-5 and 9 are amended.

The claims are amended to be more clear. Claim 3 is amended to replace "), " with "(I)". Support is found on page 10, line 11.

Claims 4, 5 and 9 are amended to replace "ko-kneader" with "co-kneader". Claims 5 and 9 are amended to depend on claim 4.

No new matter is added.

Claim 3 is objected to for reasons of record. Claim 3 is repaired by amendment.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5 and 9 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Neri, et al., U.S. Pat. No. 5,240,642.

Neri 642 describes a method for producing granulated forms of additives for neutralizing acids and tetrakis[3-(3,5-di-tert-butyl-4-hydroxyphenyl)-propionyloxymethyl]methane, carried out in the presence of the latter in the molten state, Abstract.

Example 1 of Neri 642 describes extruding a mixture of the antioxidant and calcium stearate through a circular die. A strand is obtained, is cooled and cut.

Neri 642 also discloses heated rollers if using the antioxidant at temperatures higher than T_g but lower than the melting temperature, col. 2, lines 53-62. Neri 642 goes on to state that "More advantageously, one might use a single-screw or twin-screw extruder with zones heated at suitable temperatures, so as to produce a continuous strand ("noodle"), which can be subsequently cut." Col. 2, lines 63-66.

Thus, Neri 642 discloses either heated rolling or extruding separately, but not the present extruding followed by rolling. Further, Neri 642 does not disclose the present process of cooling the

extruded mass in combination with rolling and impressing. The present process is demonstrated in Example 1 on pages 21 and 22. The mixture of additives is heated and extruded through a slot shaped nozzle. The strand is then cooled on a chute and passed through cooled rollers. The product is then impressed while cooled on a metal belt.

In view of this, Applicants submit that the disclosure of Neri 642 does not anticipate the present claims.

Claims 3 and 10 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Neri 642 in view of Neri, et al., U.S. Pat. No. 5,844,042.

Neri 042 is cited as disclosing an granules containing an antioxidant of present claim 3 and as disclosing a sieveing machine.

Applicants rebut these rejections with the same remarks as above. The disclosure of the primary reference, Neri 642, does not meet the limitations of the present claims.

Claims 6 and 7 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Neri 642 in view of Hovis, et al., U.S. Pat. No. 4,457,775 (*sic*, 4,842,794).

Hovis is cited as disclosing a process of preparing films with patterns by passing an extrudate through rolls having engraved lines.

Again, the elements of the present claims are not met by the combination of cited art. The references do not teach extrusion followed by cooling in combination with rolling and impressing.

Claim 8 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Neri 642 in view of Legge, et al., U.S. Pat. No. 4,457,775.

Legge is cited as disclosing solidifying a mixture of magnesium on a continuous steel belt.

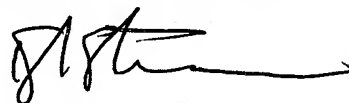
Again, the elements of the present claims are not met by the combination of cited art. The references do not teach extrusion followed by cooling in combination with rolling and impressing.

In view of the present remarks, Applicants submit that each of the claim rejections are addressed and are overcome.

The Examiner is kindly requested to reconsider and to withdraw the present rejections.

Applicants submit that the present claims are now in condition for allowance and respectfully request that they be found allowable.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment: Petition for a 2 month extension of time